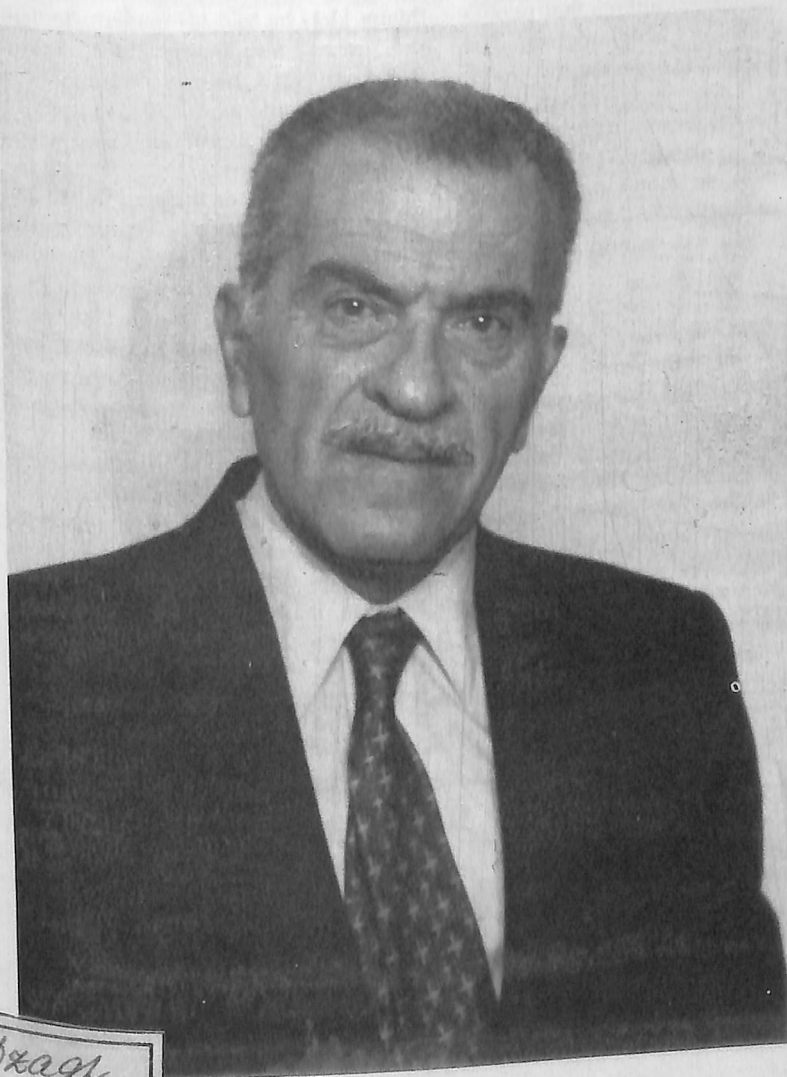


# AMIAA NEWS



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M.B. Janbazian



**NAZAR Y.  
DAGHLIAN**

Daghlarian  
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# SEARCHING FOR TRUSTWORTHY LEADERS

— M. B. Janbazian



M. B. Janbazian

In writing the history of the America of our time, future historians may well brand 1987 as "The Year The Leaders Faltered." With almost daily regularity in 1987, the news media revealed new scandals involving a public figure, government official, religious leader, public servant or a well-known personality in the business world. Ivan Boesky, Jim and Tammy Bakker, Robert McFarlane, Gary Hart, Oliver North, John Pointdexter, Joseph Biden, Michael Deaver . . . These are but some of the well-known casualties of "The Year the Leaders Faltered."

The backsliding of these and many other lesser-known, once-respected, leaders reveals corruption, greed, misuse of power, permissiveness, indulgence, hypocrisy and disrespect for law.

Common failings seen in varying degrees in the lives of human beings everywhere, some may say. Everyday temptations facing every living person in the world, others may point out. Maybe. But when so many apparent violations of morality and propriety occur in the top echelons of the very institutions on which we depend for our existence as "One Nation under God", we feel compelled to ask what on earth is happening to the spiritual values that constitute the basis of the American heritage in which we take pride? What is happening to our leaders whom we trust with the education of our children, the security of our country, the economic welfare of our society, the spiritual well-being of our families?

Further, leaders have a teaching role that is inherent in the leadership position they assume in the society. People look up to their leaders and, consciously or unconsciously, learn from their lives, character, attitudes and deeds. And at a time when the reputation of so many leaders has become tainted by kaleidoscopic midadventures we cannot help but ask "if there is a single one who does right and really seeks for God?" Is there anyone who can merit our trust? Can we find someone whom we can follow as our teacher, our guide, our leader?

These are questions of vital importance. The book of Proverbs states, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." And history affirms that people also perish without sound leadership. The words of Jesus underscore the point: "What good is it for one blind man to lead another? He will fall into a ditch and pull the other down with him." Luke 6:39. At a time when so many once-admired leaders turn into woeful disappointments, how important it is to find trustworthy leaders.

In a recently published booklet, *Who On Earth Can We Follow?* (A Radio Bible Class Publication, Grand Rapids, MI 49555-0001), Dave Branon raises this issue and points out that Jesus is definitely the one person whom we can trust, look to for guidance and follow as our ultimate leader. The following excerpt from Branon's booklet presents an enlightening reflection on the subject: "Jesus was a man who said things that even His followers couldn't understand, yet they trusted Him. He was a man who raised the eyebrows and the tempers of the religious leaders, yet they let Him teach in the temple. He was both sought after to be worshipped and sought out to be murdered. Yet 2,000 years later, He is still considered to be history's best example to live by.

"We didn't have to wait for the verdict of history, though, to reach that conclusion. The Bible clearly states that Jesus is our example. Peter said, 'Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps' (1 Peter 2:21).

"Some might object to this idea, saying that there is no way we can live as Jesus did. After all, He was the God-man. How can we be like someone who walked on water and raised the dead? The answers comes in an understanding of what Jesus did when He came to earth. He laid aside His power, making Himself totally dependent on the Holy Spirit to do His work through Him. He took 'the form of a servant' and came 'in the likeness of men' (Philippians 2:7). Even though Jesus was God, He was truly a man among men.

"Because we have the man Jesus as our example, is it wrong to see other people as models of how we should live? Not according to Paul. In fact, in 1 Corinthians 11:1, he told his readers, 'Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.' And in 2 Timothy 1:13, he said, 'Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.'

"Since Paul made it clear that we can follow his example, we have the assurance that we can look to others for guidance. But there is a caution. In 1 Corinthians 11, Paul qualified his statement by saying, ' . . . just as I also imitate Christ.' Here's the criterion: An example is worthy of emulation only if life and character are Christlike."

Yes, Christlikeness is the yardstick to measure the genuineness and trustworthiness of a leader. And, as we search for leaders for our churches, communities, institutions, and for our nation, we may do well if we focus on those who demonstrate Christlikeness in their lives, character, attitudes and actions. That way, we may save ourselves disappointments and spare our cherished institutions from further wounds inflicted by faltering leaders.

**IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED more than one copy of the AMAA NEWS, will you pass it along to a friend.**

**Thank you**

## AMAA HONORS NAZAR Y. DAGHLIAN

JUN 2009

It has become the custom of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) to honor each year an outstanding leader of the Association. The setting for this accolade is a banquet held in conjunction with the Association's annual meeting. On October 17, 1987, at the AMAA's Annual Meeting Banquet, this accolade was bestowed upon Mr. Nazar Y. Daghlilian of Landsdowne, Pennsylvania, outgoing President of the AMAA Board of Directors.

Mr. Daghlilian was honored for his long years of outstanding service to the worldwide mission ministry of the AMAA. A deeply committed person to missions and Christian outreach, Mr. Daghlilian became involved in the life and work of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) soon after his arrival in the United States in 1957; since then, he has served the Association as Board member, member of the Executive Committee and Chairman and member of many Standing, Special and Ad Hoc Committees. He was Vice President from 1966-1968, and capably served as President of the Association from 1968-71 and from 1984 to the present.

His many other involvements and services to the AMAA and the Armenian



Mr. and Mrs. Nazar Y. Daghlilian

Evangelical Church in North America include: Moderator of the Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church of Haverstown, PA; Trustee of the Stephen Philibosian Foundation (SPF); first editor of *Armenian/American Outlook* (now called the *AMAA NEWS*); Trustee of Haigazian College; Chairman of the Task Force of the World Conference of Armenian Evangelicals organized by the AMAA in 1978.

His deep commitment to the global mission of the AMAA has taken him to various parts of the worldwide missionary field of the Association. In addition to numerous AMAA-related visits to different churches in the U.S. and Canada over the years, he has visited the Armenian communities in the South American countries of Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Association; headed an

### The Inspirational Corner

#### ARE YOU WILLING?

In the New Year Are You Willing. . .  
To close your book of complaints and to open the book of praise?  
To ignore what life owes you and to think about what you owe life?  
To stop looking for friendship and to start being friendly?  
To cease looking for someone to help you and to devote yourself to helping others?  
To consecrate your life to the service of an imperfect church and to remember that Christ chose twelve imperfect followers to be His disciples.

—The Beacon.

Reprinted from the Pilgrim's Progress of The Pilgrim Armenian Evangelical Church

#### THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS

When the song of the angel is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock  
The work of Christmas begins:  
to find the lost,  
to heal the broken,  
to feed the hungry,  
to release the prisoner,  
to rebuild the nations,  
to bring peace among brothers,  
to make music in the heart.

—from Pennsylvania Council of Churches—  
UPDATE

Reprinted from the Bulletin of the Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church



## NAZAR Y. DAGHLIAN AS I KNOW HIM

G. H. Chopourian



First picture: Mr. and Mrs. Daghlian with Albert Momjian, Esq., and Dr. Edward Kavjian, Master of Ceremonies for the Testimonial Banquet. Second picture: Pianist Emma Tahmisian (left), performer at the Banquet, with Mrs. Ruth Melian and Mrs. Marge Bogosian, Co-Chairpersons of the Testimonial event, and their husbands, John Melian, and John Bogosian.

AMAA tour group visit to Yerevan, Armenia; joined the AMAA/SPF delegation's visit to Lebanon in 1980; headed the Association's delegation to the AMAA/Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches Conference in Cyprus in 1985; participated in the Annual Synod of the Armenian Evangelical Union of France; and visited Armenian communities in Germany and The Netherlands.

Held in high esteem for his capable leadership and sincere devotion to his Armenian heritage, Mr. Daghlian has served the Armenian community at large in various important capacities. He has served on the Board of the Armenian Sisters' Academy of Philadelphia, PA; was Secretary of the Armenian Historical Research Association; served as Chairman and Secretary of the Union of Armenians of Aintab; and recently was elected to the Board of Directors of the American Armenian International College.

Mr. Daghlian is married to the former Lucy Kassouny, daughter of the late Reverend Yaghia Kassouny. As a loving wife and devoted Christian, she has prayerfully encouraged her husband in his Christian service and community involvements. Mr. and Mrs. Daghlian have three children—Hagop, Mary and Arpine (Mrs. Berj Ayyazian), and four grandchildren.

Those who paid tribute to Mr. Daghlian included: The Rev. Dr. Soghomon Nuyujukian, pastor of the Armenian Martyrs'



Mr. and Mrs. Nazar Y. Daghlian with family members. Left to right, top row: Mr. Arto Ayyazian, Mr. Berge Ayyazian, Mr. Hagop Daghlian, Mr. Nazar Y. Daghlian, Mrs. Lucy Daghlian, Mr. Goriun Toumassian. Bottom row: Mrs. Queenie Ayyazian, Mrs. Marietta Toumassian, Mrs. Arpine Ayyazian, Mrs. Sirvart Kavouksorian, Miss M. Kassouny.

Congregational Church of Havertown, PA; Albert Momjian, Esq., Trustee of the Stephen Philibosian Foundation; Dr. George Ajemian, President of the Armenian Missionary Association of Canada; the Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian, Moderator of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America; The Rev. Hovhannes Karjian, President of the Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East; the Rev. Jean Daniel Sahagian, Moderator of the Armenian Evangelical Union of France; and the Rev. Dr. G. H. Chopourian, Honorary Ex-

ecutive Director of the AMAA. Dr. Edward Kavjian acted as the Master of Ceremonies for the event, and Emma Tahmisian of New York performed piano selections.

Co-chairpersons of the banquet were Mrs. Marge Bogosian of Havertown, PA, and Mrs. Ruth Melian of Cherry Hill, NJ.

The banquet offered a memorable occasion of celebration and thanksgiving for the capable leadership and unselfish devotion of Mr. Daghlian to the AMAA and the Armenian Evangelical movement worldwide.

What can one possibly say that is comprehensive about a Renaissance Man who straddles our modern day, who is widely experienced, prudent, versatile, patriotic, mission-minded, has a democratic inclination and also has a statesman's characteristics? I can take six hours to do it in, but I will agree to settle for one-twentieth of that time if someone will shout out the answer within two seconds! One, and, two and! Sorry, you are out as the NFL striking players were when they missed the 1:00 p.m. deadline.

I was not kidding when I said he has the qualities of a statesman. He must have some unusual genes which probably date back to the period of the establishment of the Rupenian Dynasty. Nazar hails from Aintab, an important fortress in Cilicia (Giligia), which was occupied by self-exiled princes of Armenia in the 11th century. Due to religious and political turmoil in Armenia a group of princes established the Kingdom of Little Armenia in Cilicia. Nazar's genes date back to those statesmen of Armenia. Why do I claim this position? Because Nazar has always occupied the position of President, Vice-President, Chairman or Coordinator throughout his life, leaving all the mundane, earthly and ordinary labors to us lesser morals.

Right at the start I should say further that Nazar has a special brand of humor. I have had some fun with his 'jabby' jokes. He combines the possibility of truth with the probability of it being a joke. Here's one among many similar ones: "Chopourian should take more time off," commented a Board member. "Why?" countered Nazar. "All the travels he makes are vacations. He enjoys himself." We all knew he was pulling my leg, but a point is made and a cloud of doubt hangs over our head. That's Nazar.

Over the years, Nazar demonstrated he knows how a President or Chairman should relate to the paid administrator or executive. He does not interfere with his work nor does he tell him what to do—but prods and challenges. In my early years in the job, he would often suggest as we traveled in the train returning home from meetings: "Chop, leadership is taken not given," suggesting perhaps I should

act more forcefully, to which I would retort, "No, leadership is earned, not taken."

We have had much fun together as we worked hand in hand.

Nazar is a man of broad experience, versatility and an impressive record as educator and administrator. The following comments will demonstrate those qualities: a man of a rich professional life and extensive education.

Born in Aintab, center of heroic Armenian resistance against Turkish incursions, his family took him to Damascus in 1921. There he attended and graduated from the Armenian Evangelical Elementary School in 1931, registered in an Arab school for a year and spent 1932-34 in Aleppo College. Between 1934-36 he attended the Souk al Gharb High School, graduating in 1936. Born to travel, apparently, we find him next in the American University of Cairo from which institution he obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1941. Between 1941-43 he taught at the English Mission College of Heliopolis, Cairo, acted as Principal of the ~~Turkmen~~ School in Damascus through 1943-44 and then spent 1944-48 teaching at St. George's English School in Jerusalem. Moving on to Lebanon, he became the Principal of the Shwayr Secondary School for six years (1948 to 1954).

His work among the Arabs, who admired and respected him, is of great importance for us Armenians. In the first place, it was a small return for the great humanity these people had demonstrated towards the hordes of Armenians who were driven into the deserts of Arabia by the Ottoman Government. These Arabs protected many Armenians from being massacred by hiding them, as well as by adopting them! It is to our own peril to forget that even a Muslim Arab can be human! In the second place, he became a witness by his presence amongst them. He was a living and walking example of a Christian and an Armenian, arousing the admiration and respect of these people both for Christians and Armenians. To win a people over, it is advisable to become a living witness—and that Nazar was, especially when we con-



Dr. G. H. Chopourian, Honorary Executive Director of the AMAA, paying tribute to Mr. Daghlian.

sider that he was converted in Armenian evangelical meetings at twelve and even then commenced outlining sermons with a view to work as an evangelist. In the third place, Mr. Daghlian developed a genuine understanding of the Arab mentality, their culture, and great civilization. Having mastered the Arabic language, he impressed the Arabs greatly, and they in turn loved him and were proud that an Armenian was the Principal of their school! So, in return, they developed a high degree of respect for Armenians in general. Nazar singly, in his own circles, managed to elevate the Armenian name onto a high pedestal. He had thus become an effective and excellent ambassador for Armenians! He qualifies for a U.S. ambassadorial post in an Arab State with his good grasp of five languages.

Between 1954-56, Mr. Daghlian served as the Principal of the Armenian Evangelical College in Beirut where he also served in the Joint Council of the First Armenian Evangelical Church of Beirut as well as in the Board of Trustees of the School. With his family he immigrated to the United States in December, 1956, settling in Landsdowne, Pennsylvania (suburb of Philadelphia). He then taught at the



Springfield County Senior High School and was appointed as the head of the Foreign Languages Department until his retirement in 1986.

Mr. Daghljan is an ambitious man. While teaching, he also attended education courses at Temple University and obtained an M.A. degree in 1967. In addition, he has a local preacher's license from the Methodist Church. In the capacity of lay preacher, he was uniquely helpful to the Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church of Philadelphia from 1957 to 1958 as a full-time supply pastor and also led Wednesday evening prayer meetings in Armenian, Turkish and English and preached practically every other Sunday from the pulpit, being often also pulpit supply to this Church for many years. When he first settled in Landsdowne, he did extensive lecturing in churches, church groups, Rotarian and Optimist Clubs and so forth, speaking on the Middle East and Islam. He has also been a respected member of the greater Philadelphia Armenian community whose inter-communal groups have often called upon him to speak at Vartanantz and Martyrs' Day observances, in both English and Armenian, on many occasions. His services to the AMAA have been varied and extensive, having been on the Board of Directors almost continually since his arrival in the United States, with the exception of those years when the Constitution provided a vacation from Board membership every six years. During his Board membership, he was responsible for a number of important assignments, the most significant of which was the chairmanship of a group that studied the appropriate structure of Haigazian College. As a result, the Haigazian College Trustees came into being when its membership was approved by the Association. He served on it as a founding member for six years until it was moved to Los Angeles. He was in Beirut to receive the first President in 1955.

As can be seen, Mr. Daghljan's very special interests center around the use of his free time for the community, charitable organizations, and, to add a third, patriotic groups. He was the President of the Union of Armenians of Aintab in America, Inc., which, among other things, provided an annual scholarship at

Haigazian College for many years.

Mr. Daghljan met his wife, the former Lucy Kassouny, daughter of the late church-historian-theologian Reverend Yeghia Kassouny, in Beirut, where they were married in 1950 and were blessed with three children—Marie Isabel, Arpine and Hagop—who have added their share to the making of a fine, disciplined, happy family, and four grandchildren. Without Lucy's gracious cooperation and sacrifices, Nazar could not have served as generously as he did. Thank you, Lucy.

Asked as to what was perhaps the most meaningful experience in his life, Nazar unhesitatingly mentions the extremely great sacrifices that his parents underwent to educate him, his late brother Theodore and his sister, Marie Nourkhanian. His mother worked for over thirty years as a kindergarten school teacher to perform that responsibility, and his father, a totally new person after his sudden conversion, encouraged and labored towards that end. One not to forget such sacrifices, Nazar (whose father died early in life) doted on his mother and mother-in-law, Mrs. Feride and Mrs. Yevnig, both of whom lived in the Daghljan home where they were provided with much-appreciated care, respect, honor and affection. It is from his mother that Nazar caught his mission-mindedness and mission-centeredness. To the last days of her life his mother would accumulate her savings and send them to the AMAA by the hand of Nazar. Personally, I used to be deeply touched by the gesture each time Nazar brought her loving gifts.

I brashly asked Nazar two questions:

1. What is your philosophy of life? "To help others," he said. Through the AMAA he rendered great help in many areas of the Christian witness.
2. I am a paid employee and have to work for my pay. Why do you tag along with me traveling long distances, and staying into the late hours of the day and early morning appointments? His answer, "I don't know; aboush yem."

No he is no fool. If you allow me to read a portion of a report he wrote of AMAA's group tour to Armenia, you will have a better insight into the reasons why

he has given time and money in the service rendered to his "beloved" AMAA. He has been touched and inspired. "When we arrived at the Armenian Evangelical Baptist (because the Baptist Church is the only recognized denomination the USSR) Church in Yerevan, we had to walk a few steps below the level of the street, through a narrow, dingy and dark alley between houses to get to the entrance of the church. It was a dilapidated and crumbling building with the entrance being repaired to enlarge the church hall. It reminded me of the subterranean gathering places of the Christians in Rome during the early stages of Christianity. The church was a small hall, a house remodelled to look like a hall. It was not only full to capacity but overflowing with people standing or sitting outside all doors, windows, entrances and exits. They were all elderly and old; the absence of young people was immediately conspicuous and evident.

"Rev. Consulian, Rev. Chopourian and I sat on the pulpit while the choir sang hymns seated behind us. Despite Rev. Consulian's announcement that the first part of the service would be curtailed to give us more time to speak, petition after petition came to him to pray for the sick, touch the nightgown of a lady in bed, and pray, bless this, bless that. There was such an atmosphere of simple, pure, honest, and devoted faith and piety that we all felt moved. Whether it was the fact that we were in Armenia amongst our own people, or the fact that we could see and hear God worshipped in a state where religion is considered an opiate of the people, I do not know. I do know one thing, we all felt the way the disciples did in the Upper Room, that the spirit of God was present and we were all electrified by witnessing this humble and poor group of worshippers. The singing of the choir sounded more inspiring than the Robert Shaw chorale despite the fact that the old organ had never felt the fingers of a tuner. I have seen most of famous cathedrals in Europe; yet this simple and humble church seemed more beautiful and moved us all more than the renowned Notre Dame of Paris. We could hardly withhold our tears. I greeted the congregation in the name of the AMAA and the Armenian Evangelicals of America adding a

few remarks about the faith of our forefathers, their suffering and their clinging to their faith under tribulation and massacre. Rev. Chopourian delivered the message. His theme was the basic principles of the Christian faith. I was close to him and watched his face. His voice faltered and I could see a few drops of tear running down his cheek. As I watched the congregation I recognized several people I had known prior to their migration to Armenia. This made it more touching to me.

"At the conclusion of the service, as time was short and we had to rush to Et-

chmiadzin, we walked out through the center aisle while several members of the congregation touched us and kissed us, saying God bless you. The feeling of oneness in Christ was evident throughout the whole service.

"In Etchmiadzin the Vehapar was gracious enough to grant us an audience after the morning mass. We all gathered around him in the reception room and he talked to the group for about half an hour. One thing he said was very significant and unforgettable: 'We have made great progress in this country during the past fifty years,' he said, 'socially, economical-

ly, and politically. Our ardent desire, prayer and hope is that we shall also make great progress within the next fifty years, in our faith, belief and love of God.'"

We are glad to introduce to you the retiring President of the AMAA after two three-year terms—a sociable, persuasive, convincing, democratic and humorous gentleman whose balanced outlook and mediatorial leadership strengthened the AMAA all round. In sum: we have had a great President and a faithful Board member who was a generous contributor of his voluntary labors.

## AMAA 68TH ANNUAL MEETING ACTIVITIES

On the occasion of the 68th Annual Meeting of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) on October 18, 1987, several other important events were scheduled in order to take advantage of the confluence of Armenian Evangelical leaders from around the world. These activities, listed in chronological order, were:

### October 9-11 — AMAA-UAECNE Joint Conference.

The Beirut-based Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East (UAECNE) and the AMAA got together to review their cooperative work in the Near East, to identify issues and problems that need attention, and to inform AMAA Board members about recent developments in Lebanon.

### October 12-14 — AEWEC Meeting

The Armenian Evangelical World Council (AEWC) is the corporate expression of the ongoing Armenian Evangelical Movement initiated about 150 years ago. This was the first official meeting of the AEWEC since it was established in its present form at a 1981 meeting in Paris, France. The AMAA is a major participant in this organization, whose purpose is to unify the missions and service ministry of Armenian Evangelicals worldwide.

### October 14-15 — AEUNA Board Meeting

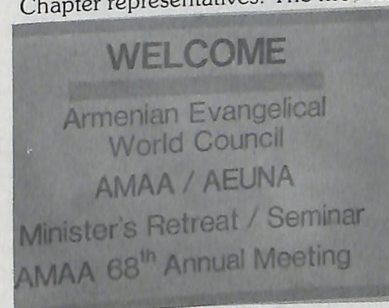
The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America (AEUNA) was chaired by

the Moderator of the Union, Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian. The Board addressed a number of issues related to the life and work of the Armenian Evangelical churches in North America.

### October 15-16 — Ministers' Retreat/Seminar

This event was sponsored jointly by the AMAA and the AEUNA. The theme of the Retreat/Seminar was "Forward Together in Faith". Its purpose was to deepen awareness and appreciation of the witness and service of Armenian Evangelical churches in various parts of the world and to reflect on the role of the AEWEC in enhancing the mission of the

Armenian Evangelical Movement. Participants included active ministers from the United States and other countries as well as AMAA Board members and Chapter representatives. The moderator



Some of the participants in the AMAA/Conference. Left to right: Mr. Aram Minnetian, Mr. John Sagherian, Dr. G. H. Chopourian, The Rev. Barkev Apartian, Mr. Nazar Y. Daghljan, The Rev. Hovhannes Karjian, Dr. George Ajemian, Dr. George Bezirgianian, Mr. Kirk Ser-mabeikian and Dr. Raffi Balabanian.





The Rev. Daniel Sahagian and The Rev. Hovhannes Karjian administering Holy Communion.

was Mr. Nazar Y. Daghljan, President of the AMAA.

### October 16-17 - AMAA Board Meeting

The Board of Directors of the AMAA met to discuss and act upon the recommendations of the preceding AMAA-UAECNE Joint Conference and the AEWG meeting. Foremost among the concerns of the Board was financial support to alleviate the desperate situation of many Armenians in the Middle East resulting from the unending fighting and disarray in Lebanon and the protracted Iran-Iraq conflict.

### October 17 - AMAA Banquet Honoring Nazar Y. Daghljan

The 68th Annual Meeting Banquet of the AMAA featured a tribute to Mr. Nazar Y. Daghljan, retiring President of the AMAA, for his many years of distinguished and dedicated service to the life and ministry of the AMAA.

### October 18 - Special Worship Service

On Sunday, October 18, a special service of praise and thanksgiving was held at the Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church of Havertown, Pennsylvania. The pastor of the church, Rev. Soghomon Nuyujukian, was assisted by Rev. Jean Daniel Sahagian, Moderator of the Armenian Evangelical Union of France; Rev. Hovhannes Karjian, President of the Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East; and Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian, Moderator of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North



The Rev. Hovhannes Karjian, President of the Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East (second from right), in informal conversation with the officers of the AMAA, Nazar Y. Daghljan, Kirk Sermabeikian and Aram Minnetian.

America. The service included an impressive installation ceremony for Rev. Moses B. Janbazian, the new Executive Director of the AMAA. Rev. Janbazian was called to serve as the chief executive officer of the AMAA following the retirement last July of Rev. G.H. Chopourian, who had held the position of Executive Director for 19 years.

### October 18 - AMAA 68th Annual Meeting

On the afternoon of October 18, the AMAA's 68th Annual Meeting took place, chaired by Mr. Nazar Y. Daghljan, retiring President of the Association. Present at the meeting were ministers, AMAA Chapter representatives, and many members and friends of the AMAA. The highlights of the meeting included the Treasurer's Report, showing an impressive increase in the Association's assets from

about \$21 million to almost \$26 million dollars, and the Executive Director's report, showing a substantial expansion in the Association's ministries. The latter was an occasion of some significance and perhaps some nostalgia as well, as it was the last time that Rev. G.H. Chopourian, recently retired after 19 years of service, would be presenting a report as Executive Director.

The AMAA-UAECNE Joint Conference was held at the AMAA's Headquarters in Paramus, New Jersey. All of the other activities took place in and around Philadelphia, where they were coordinated by the host church, the Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church of Havertown, Pennsylvania, whose pastor is Rev. Soghomon Nuyujukian. He and his staff deserve high marks for their prodigious efforts.

## DR. GEORGE BEZIRGANIAN IS THE NEW PRESIDENT OF AMAA

At its meeting of November 14, 1987, the Board of Directors of the AMAA unanimously elected George Bezirgian, M.D., of Middletown, N.Y., as the President of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, Inc., for fiscal 1987-88. Dr. Bezirgian will succeed Mr. Nazar Y. Daghljan of Lansdowne, PA who has served as AMAA's President since 1984.

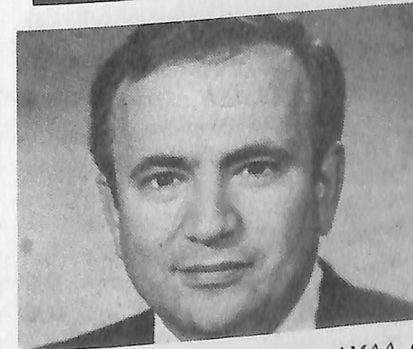
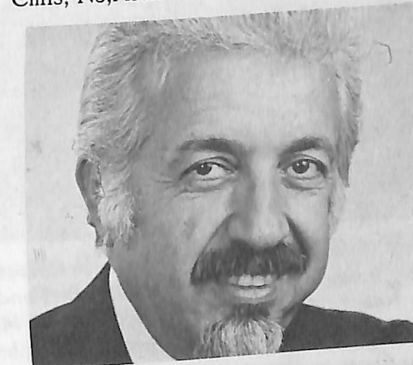
Dr. Bezirgian became involved in the life and work of the AMAA soon after his arrival in the United States in 1959. He has served the AMAA ever since as a most capable President for two years (1982-83), Vice President, Board member, Chairman of Personnel Committee and member of Executive, Spiritual Life, Investment, Budget/Finance, Scholarship and many Ad Hoc Committees.

Dr. Bezirgian, a Board Certified Psychiatrist, received his medical degree at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon. He is a former President of the West Hudson District Branch Psychiatric Association, and currently holds the position of Deputy Director of the Middletown Psychiatric Center. He is married to the former Pauline Bezirgian (no relation) and they are the proud parents of two sons and one daughter; John, a graduate of the Boston University Medical School, currently a third-year Psychiatric resident at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City; Carol Bezirgian Perez, a 4th year medical student at Mount Sinai Medical School of New York; and Stephen, a recent graduate of Columbia University with a Masters degree in Economics.

Dr. Bezirgian, who is a mission-minded Christian and a passionate Armenian, has an impressive evangelical background. He is a graduate of the First Armenian Evangelical Church College of Beirut, Lebanon; a former leader of the Christian Endeavor Society in the Middle East; and a seasoned lay preacher of the Gospel. He has served as Sunday School teacher, Trustee and Council member of Armenian Evangelical Churches.

In virtue of his unique background, deep commitment to missions and broad knowledge of AMAA's mission field, Dr. Bezirgian will certainly provide, once again, inspiring leadership for AMAA's mission and service ministry to our people worldwide.

The other officers of the Board of Directors of the AMAA elected on November 14 are: Mr. Hrant Agbabian of Los Angeles, CA and Mrs. Elida Nerso Telfeyan of Little Neck, NY, Vice Presidents; Mr. Aram Minnetian of Westwood, NJ, Treasurer; Mr. Vahram Aynilian of Alpine, NJ, Assistant Treasurer; Mr. Millard Bekmezian of Philadelphia, PA, Recording Secretary; and Mr. John Cherkezian of Englewood Cliffs, NJ, Assistant Recording Secretary.



The newly elected officers of the AMAA. Clockwise: George Bezirgian, M. D., President; Mrs. Elida N. Telfeyan, Vice-President; Mr. Millard Bekmezian, Recording Secretary; Mr. Aram Minnetian, Treasurer; Mr. H. Hrant Agbabian, Vice-President.

The newly-elected members of the AMAA Board are: Rev. Karl V. Avakian of Oradell, NJ; Archie Cherkezian of Jackson Heights, NY; Armen Dohanian, Jr., of Belmont, MA; H. Philip Hovnanian, Ph.D., of Riverdale, NY; Edward

Janjigian of Franklin Lakes, NJ; Sam Mardian, Jr., of Phoenix, AZ; Alan G. Philibosian, Esq., of New Milford, NJ; Louise H. Tezel of Scarsdale, NY; Andrew Torigian of Paramus, NJ; and Juliette Vartanian of Chicago, IL.



## HAIGAZIAN COLLEGE UPDATE

On September 12, 1987, the Board of Trustees and the Board of Managers of Haigazian College held a joint meeting in Los Angeles and deliberated on a range of issues related to the life and work of Haigazian College in Beirut, Lebanon. Members of the Board of Trustees attending the meeting included: Rendel Levonian, M.D., Chairman; Jirair Sarian, M.D., Treasurer; Louis Kurkjian, Assistant Treasurer; Helen Barsumian Grimsley, Secretary; Harold DeMirjian; Seb Gertmenian; Sarkis Kalfayan, Ph.D.; Sam Mardian, Jr.; Art Mehagian; Mary Mehagian; Joyce Philibosian Stein; and Hermine Janoyan, the newly-elected Chairperson of the Women's Auxiliary of Los Angeles. The Beirut-based Board of Managers was represented by Hrayr Mouradian, Treasurer; John Sagherian; and Wilma Cholakian, the Administrative Dean of the College. Representing the Armenian Missionary Association of America, Inc., (AMAA), were: Nazar Y. Daghlilian, President; H. Hrant Agbabian, Vice President; and the Rev. Moses B. Janbazian, Executive Director.

In the course of the discussions, the participants in the joint meeting were informed about the problems and opportunities facing the College; they addressed a number of issues ensuing from the ongoing strife and economic crisis in Lebanon. Among the agenda items considered at the meeting were: The status of the West Beirut Campus, the expansion of the East Beirut Campus, the possibilities of opening a Department of Religious studies, recruitment and salaries of faculty members, a subsidy to Administrator, the financial needs of the College, and promotional and fund raising endeavors in the United States.

The participants in the meeting affirmed their commitment to the College and expressed their admiration for the courage and dedication with which the Board of Managers, the Administrative Dean and the faculty are persisting in their efforts to help the College continue its mission amid extremely adverse circumstances.

Thanks to the gallant labors of its local leadership and the generosity of its friends and supporters in the United States, Haigazian College has not only

survived as a functioning institution, but also as a vital educational ministry to the Armenian youth stranded in a country ravaged by a prolonged civil war and an economic crisis.

The principal activity of the College is now in East Beirut, where it is using the former Bethany-Mesjian School campus and the Christian Medical Center (CMC) building, formerly a hospital. The College now has nearly 30,000 square feet of classroom space in its two buildings.

The East Beirut campus started the year with 180 students, of whom 163 were Armenian. For the second semester,



The benefactors of Haigazian College. Left to Right: Mrs. Joyce Philibosian Stein, Chairman of Stephen Philibosian Foundation; Mrs. Mary Mehagian & son, Arthur, of Phoenix, Arizona.



Some of the participants in the Haigazian College Joint Meeting. Left to right: Mr. Hrayr Mouradian, Treasurer of Board of Managers; Dr. Rendel Levonian, Chairman of Board of Trustees; Mr. Nazar Y. Daghlilian, President of AMAA; Miss Wilma Cholakian, Administrative Dean of Haigazian College; and The Rev. M. B. Janbazian, Executive Director of the AMAA.

this figure is expected to rise to well over 200 students, with a full-time faculty of six.

The AMAA's annual subsidy is vital to the survival of the College because tuition fees do not cover costs. In addition, Haigazian College offers scholarships to all needy but deserving students. It is the college's policy that no qualified Armenian student should be deprived of a college education for lack of financial resources.

The latest report received from the College concludes as follows:

"We do not want to give the impression that everything is running very smoothly. We are truly living under difficult conditions in a country where there is no governmental authority, no financial stability and no respect for law and order. Under these abnormal circumstances young people are facing

future that may elude them for a long time. Haigazian is trying hard to make the present of its students as meaningful as possible, at the same time providing adequate tools to help them make that elusive future a rewarding reality.

"The still large Armenian community in Lebanon has had only words of praise for our courage and vision. God has been generous during the past two years by, among other things, helping us to make the right decisions at the right times and providing us with friends and friendly organizations all over the world and as far away as New Jersey and California who, with their continuous support, interest, encouragement and prayers have assisted us in our efforts to make the College an inspiring lighthouse in a sea of turmoil."

The AMAA remains fully committed to strengthening Haigazian College so that it can continue its mission to our people.



Mrs. Hermine Janoyan, Chairperson of the Women's Auxiliary of Los Angeles, presenting a check for \$10,000 to Dr. Jirair Sarian, Treasurer of Board of Trustees. Sharing in the occasion are, left to right: Mrs. Helen Barsumian Grimsley, Secretary of the Board of Trustees; Miss Jenny Barsumian, granddaughter of the late Judge Nazareth Barsumian, a major benefactor of the College; Mr. Louis Kurkjian, Asst. Treasurer of the Board of Trustees.

There are hundreds of young men and women who, because of the current economic crisis and the ongoing civil strife in Lebanon, will be deprived of a higher education if we do not keep the doors of Haigazian College open. That is why the Board of Directors of the AMAA has budgeted \$160,000 for scholarships to needy students and the operational needs of the college for fiscal 1987-88. This unprecedented pledge presents a challenge to the AMAA and to those who are concerned about the future of our youth in the Middle East. We pray that we can, once again, count on the support and generosity of our members and friends for the fulfillment of this commitment.

## WAR, HARD TIMES HURT LEBANESE STUDENTS

—By Sahar Baasiri

**Editor's Note:** The following article appeared in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* on October 26, 1987. It is reprinted in its entirety.

October marks the reopening of schools in Lebanon. In Beirut, East and West, and in the rest of the country, parents are busy preparing children for the new academic year. Bookstores, stationery stores and book exchange markets are crowded.

Yet, an increasing need for money—the result of rampant inflation—is fostering a new attitude that is undermining this academic year.

At a bookstore in heavily Christian East Beirut, a boy of 15 went with his parents to buy five books. "Seven thousand pounds," the salesman said. They were surprised. The father left in anger as his wife asked him to get the money by any means.

"I can't borrow more money. I have enough debts," he said. She took off her watch and—as customers and pedestrians watched sadly—she cried out: "A watch for seven thousand pounds. My parents' gift on my wedding. Why buy?" The son waited with tears in his eyes.

What the woman did is what many parents are doing, publicly and privately, to ensure that their children will go to school this year.

A dramatic fall in the value of the

Lebanese pound is creating an educational crisis that is clouding the future of more than 600,000 students in 3,050 private and public educational institutions in Lebanon.

Besides disrupting education, the 13-year-old civil war finally has thrown a once-vibrant economy—based on Lebanon's status as a middleman between the Arab world and the West—into a deep depression.

In 1975, one U.S. dollar was equal to 2.25 Lebanese pounds. Today, one dollar brings nearly 400 pounds.

The cost of schooling has become a terrible burden. With the crash of the pound, the real average income is \$30 a month. And this is not enough to buy books and stationery for one child in a country where a few pounds of meat cost a month's wages.

Private schools have increased their tuition to between 15,000 and 90,000 pounds, depending on the age of the child and the quality of the school. Imported or locally printed foreign textbooks are priced in American dollars, French francs and West German marks. The same applies to stationery.

Some people have the money, but the majority, mostly middle-class people, find it painful to pay. They are trying to cut other expenses, which already have shrunk to the necessities, or borrowing money or selling property.

Complicating things is a strike by more than 50,000 teachers that began Tuesday. They are demanding better work conditions and increased salaries. And with public transportation lacking, the teachers are calling for state-subsidized transportation for themselves and students.

The average monthly salary of a teacher is \$24—not enough to commute by car.

Most of the schools also have been damaged by war or neglect. In a country with more than 600,000 refugees, many schools have become homes for the displaced. The government, with little more than symbolic power, is helpless to improve the system of education or the economic situation.

But for middle-class and poor families, the economic crisis is something that must be dealt with immediately.

"I borrowed the money to pay the fees today. I might not be able to do that next semester," said 50-year-old Farid, a taxi driver and father of five who lives in Muslim-dominated West Beirut. "Our priorities are changing. I have to feed my children before I send them to school."

What Farid is afraid of, already afflicts many, especially those who work for daily wages.

Mahmoud, 30, is a builder. He has four children, three of whom are of school age. Mahmoud left school when he was 14 to help his father earn money.



His dream was to send his children to the best schools and universities.

Today his dream is fading away. Two years ago, he sent his oldest son to a private school. Last year, he had to send his second son to a public school to keep the oldest in the private school.

But this year he can't even afford to do that. He managed to get some financial help to pay half of the tuition for the oldest, but nothing for the others. This year, the oldest, 7, will go to school, but the 6-year-old and the 5-year-old will stay

at home.

As hard as it is on parents, the crisis is beginning to have an impact on the children, too.

Throughout the war schools have been virtually the only creative outlet for children. For the majority it is still the same, but for the children of very poor families this is changing. This year, many of the poorest parents cannot afford to send their children even to public schools. They need the money to survive.

Naji, 13, started to work as a shoeshine

boy after finishing school in June. He is the oldest of the children. "I have five sisters and brothers," he said. "How can we live if I don't work and help my parents? Naji will not go to school this year.

"I have to earn money. I love to go to school, but I just don't have time," he said.

Many Lebanese are afraid that if the situation does not change, learning will become a luxury.

## RECEPTION FOR AMAA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The Armenian Cilicia Congregational Church in Altadena, California, hosted a gala reception to honor the local recipients of AMAA Scholarships. Rev. Samuel Agulian, minister of the host church, Mr. Henry Abajian, moderator of the church, Rev. Joseph Matossian and Rev. John Melkonian each spoke briefly.

Mr. Harold Demirjian, a Board member of the AMAA, brought greetings on behalf of the Executive Director and the Board of Directors of the AMAA. He congratulated the recipients and challenged them to strive for excellence in their chosen fields.

Mrs. Joyce Stein and Stephanie Stein also participated in this event, as did Maria Marjanian Bragg and Sharon Sogomonian representing the scholarship recipients.

Dr. Pepronia Merjanian spoke to the recipients about the continuity of scholarship aid and the expectation that today's recipients will become tomorrow's donors.

Other receptions for local recipients were held at the following churches:

- Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church, Havertown, PA
- Armenian Presbyterian Church, Paramus, NJ
- First Armenian Church, Belmont, MA
- Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church, Fresno, CA

Dr. John Keuhnelian, Chairman of the AMAA Scholarship Committee and his committee members reviewed each application carefully and allocated more than \$180,000 to nearly 160 worthy students for the 1987-88 school year. This amount was provided from the in-

come of the following endowment funds:

Aynilian Family Fund, Vahan Azadian Fund, Richard Z. Babikian Memorial Fund, Augustine & Vergine Badeer Fund, The Rev. A.A. Bedikian Theological Scholarship Fund, Arthur Dadian Educational Fund, Dr. Haig Darpinian & Mrs. Bergouhie Timourian Fund, Dohanian Family Fund, Armine Ejdaharian/Bilezikjian Fund, Puzant & Angele Gulesserian Fund, Anne Halford Memorial Fund, Angele Bedrossian Hancock Fund, Dr. Jacob Hekemian Medical Loan Fund, Hekemian Family Fund, Paul & Arousiag Iskiyan Theological Fund, Jedidian Educational Fund, A. & P. Kezarian Fund, E.N. Tellalian Fund, John G. Kazanjian Trust Fund, Rev. & Mrs. D.Y. Koundakjian/H. & S. Berejiklian Fund, Prof. Lootfi Levonian Fund, Dr. James Mouradian Medical Scholarship Fund, M.H. Muradian Scholarship Fund, Raymond & Marie Nahigian Fund, Nazareth, Artin & Yester Nazarian Memorial Fund, George & Alice Philibosian Fund, Stephen Philibosian Endowment Fund, Altoon & Sara Saprichian Fund, Dicran & Flora Sarkisian Fund, Kirk and Anna Sermabeikian Fund, Hovnan & Edward Tashian Fund, Telfeyan Evangelical Fund, Dr. & Mrs. Jirayr Tezel Fund, Rev. & Mrs. Edward S. Tovmassian Fund, Rev. Dr. Theodore Daghlion Memorial Fund, Leon & Matilda Giridlian Fund, Rev. & Mrs. Yeghia Kassouny Memorial Fund, R. & O. Mankanian Missionary Fund, James Puzant Shamlian Memorial Fund, K. & E. Ouyoumjian Fund, J. & H. Sharabjian Fund, Berjouhi Sherene Fund.



Dr. John Keuhnelian, Chairman of AMAA Scholarship Committee.

Scholarship application forms for the 1988-89 school year will be released after January 1, 1988. Requests for the forms must be made in writing by the applicants themselves, who should also enclose a self-addressed and stamped (39¢) envelope. Completed application forms must reach the AMAA Headquarters before May 15, 1988 in order to qualify for committee consideration.

## AMAA SUPPORTS DENTAL CLINIC IN ALEPPO, SYRIA

The Church of Christ is an Armenian mission center in Aleppo, Syria, devoted to the spiritual and physical needs of the local Armenian community. The center operates a clinic dispensing general medical services as well as gynecological care. The AMAA has supported this ministry for many years.

Recently the Church of Christ undertook the addition of a dental clinic to its health services. The AMAA shared the cost of establishing and operating this clinic, which is now in service. The following excerpts are from a letter to the AMAA, dated October 1, 1987, from Rev. S. Kilaghbian, Chairman of the Church of Christ Committee, and Rev. Barkev Apartian, Director of the mission center:

"We are very happy that the AMAA has decided to support this project specially by way of helping annually towards the running expenses. Therefore

once again, we do heartily thank you praising God and praying that He may transform all our labors into blessings for the glory and honor of His most Holy and precious name.

"Dear friends, we have the pleasure to inform you at this time that the dental clinic was completed by God's grace towards the end of March. And already, on the first of April it started operating. Since then, it has become a very crowded place and we have witnessed how hundreds of men and women have come to this clinic to receive the necessary treatment and find physical and mental comfort. We are only happy and blessed to see that the Lord has been rewarding our human efforts by making them fruitful. We trust God and have the assurance that the continuation and progress of this special service will be a great source of assistance and relief to many needy persons in our community, and therefore we



The Rev. Barkev Apartian, Director of the Church of Christ Mission Center in Aleppo, Syria.

bring ourselves, this whole work and all of our dear and concerned friends and partners to the throne of God's grace and look forward in hope and thankfulness."

## DR. AND MRS. PUZANT KRIKORIAN



Dr. and Mrs. Puzant Krikorian

Puzant and Maggie Krikorian of Fresno celebrated their forty-fifth wedding anniversary on August 29, 1987, at the home of Walter Kran in Leandro, California. The occasion inspired son-in-law John Havoonyan to compose the following poetic tribute:

Patient in his dealings, always in poise,  
Utopian vision, unique ideas.  
Zealous endeavors, zany he is still,  
Ardent in his faith, adamant his will  
Noble character, Naregatsi heart,  
Tempered discipline, tinker is his art.

Modern in outlook, melody divine,  
A la mode style, aromatic cuisine  
Graceful in manners, gingerly remarks,  
Inquisitive mind, in-depth as an oak,  
Elegant in dress, engaging in talk.

King of the clan/Queen for a Krikorian,  
Rambo for Christ/rainbow for all mankind.  
Ideal husband/ideal woman.  
Kind and very keen, her actions will ring.

Obliging is he, not overbearing.  
Royal descent and sacred heritage,  
Ingenious, handy around his cottage.  
Aintabzi is he, Highlander is she,  
Numerous the fruits of their matrimony.

## SETRAK BOYAJIAN



Setrak Boyajian and his late wife, Beatrice

Setrak Boyajian of Hollywood, California, was one of 12 citizens honored by the American Centenarian Committee at its annual luncheon last May at Hollywood's Roosevelt Hotel.

Setrak, a spry 102, retired from the carpet business some years ago. His wife, Beatrice, passed away on December 19, 1986. Setrak, who still lives in his own home in Hollywood, attributes his longevity to his consumption of a gallon of yogurt each week.



# FROM THE ALBUM OF THE OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVES OF THE AMAA

The pictures below depict some of the many AMAA members and friends with whom our officers had the pleasure of meeting recently.



First picture: Friends of the AMAA-Peninsula Group after a fund-raising event held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Levon Gulesserian of San Jose, CA. Second picture: Mr. Aznive Vartabedian of Detroit celebrating 85th Anniversary during the missionary luncheon at the Armenian Congregational Church of Detroit. Third picture: The Rev. Steve Muncherian, Mr. Sam Apelian and The Rev. Berdj Djambazian of the United Armenian Congregational Church of Hollywood.



First picture: The dedicated members of the Mission Committee of the Cilicia Armenian Congregational Church of Pasadena. Second picture: Mrs. Alice Sunukjian of Troy, NY (left) with her daughter, Joan. Third picture: Young AMAA supporters from Detroit—Mr. and Mrs. Mark Zartarian and Dr. and Mrs. Khalil Dirani. Fourth picture: Mr. Charles Ishkhanian of Troy, NY and Mr. and Mrs. Peter Sivaslian of Loudonville, NY.



First picture: Dr. and Mrs. Paul Hasserjian of Manchester, NH, with Miss Betty Kourkenian. Second picture: The Rev. Benamine Weir (2nd from right) visiting with the Executives and the President of the AMAA. Third picture: Mr. and Mrs. Sam Hamo of Anaheim, CA, flanking Dr. and Mrs. G. H. Chopourian.



Left to right: Dr. and Mrs. George Macer of Altadena, CA; Mr. John Mirak of Lexington, MA; Mr. and Mrs. Hagop Ishkhanian of La Habra, CA; Mr. Levon Levonian of Tary, NY; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Darakjian of Encino, CA.



First picture: AMAA Board Members at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Harold DeMirjian of Sherman Oaks, CA. Second picture: AMAA friends from Whittier, CA—Mr. and Mrs. Greg Hakimian, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Zoolalian, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Saliba. Third picture: Dr. and Mrs. Peter Krikorian and Mr. and Mrs. Augustine Badeer with young AMAA supporters from Fresno, CA.



First picture: Mr. Nazar Y. Daghljan presenting Certificate of Appreciation Plaque to outgoing Board Member, Mr. John Bogosian. Second picture: President Daghljan with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Savoian. Third picture: Dr. and Mrs. George Bezirgian with their son, Steve, a Life Member of the AMAA. Fourth picture: Mr. Daghljan presenting Life Membership Plaque to Dr. Raffi Balabanian of Aleppo, Syria.



First picture: Attorney Paul Kazarosian of Haverhill, MA, with his daughter, Attorney Marsha. Second picture: Dr. and Mrs. Puzant Hadidian of Los Gatos, CA, with their daughter, Eileen. Third picture: Mr. and Mrs. Puzant Gulesserian of San Jose with their daughter, Hilda. Fourth picture: Friends of the AMAA from the Armenian Congregational Church of Chicago—Mr. Vasken Aivazian, Mrs. Juliette Vartanian, Miss Shake Bogosian, Mr. Harry Manoushagian and Dr. Berj Gueyikian.



First picture: Members of the Armenian Evangelical Fellowship of San Jose meeting at the home of Dr. and Mrs. John Merjanian in Saratoga, CA. Second picture: Dr. John Halebian, Chairman of the Armenian Evangelical Fellowship of San Jose, leading a fellowship-meeting. Third picture: Ecumenical Fellowship at the home of The Rev. and Mrs. John Zarifian of Providence, RI.



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OBITUARIES

AZNIV SHIRIKJIAN-MOUSIAN

The following tribute (slightly edited) to Azniv Shirikjian-Mousian was written by **Eunice Chamichian** of Fresno, Azniv's niece and executrix of her estate:

Our beloved aunt, Azniv Shirikjian-Mousian, was born in Aintab, Turkey, on April 14, 1895. Her parents were Sarkis and Sophig. She was the youngest of four sisters. Their brother, Najib Shirikian, was a master goldsmith and a highly esteemed Christian layman who for many years served the Armenian church communities of Aintab and Aleppo.

Since Azniv's mother died young, Azniv was raised largely by her aunts and uncles, members of the well-known Missirian family. They continued to build upon the Christian foundation that her mother had left her as a legacy.

Azniv graduated from the Aintab Seminary for Girls just as the Turkish atrocities had begun to savage entire Armenian communities. While most of her close relatives were killed, Azniv and a few members of her family were miraculously saved by what Azniv felt was divine intervention. The impact of what happened was a turning point in her life. Her brother had come down with typhus, so their house was quarantined. Thus their house was spared. Najib, however, became delirious and was on the point of death. The fervent prayers of the family, according to Azniv, saved her brother's life. As a result of these circumstances, both Azniv and Najib dedicated their lives to Christ. Najib's total devotion and Christian example never ceased to be a source of inspiration to Azniv throughout her life.

In 1954 Azniv married Yessai Lee Mousian and came to Van Nuys, California, where she lived the rest of her life. She lost her husband



Yessai Lee and Azniv (Shirikjian) Mousian

in 1968 and was left alone. But as the Lord would have it, three of Azniv's nieces (of whom I was one) and a nephew settled down very close to her home and gave her the full measure of love and caring that she had formerly lavished on them.

In her later years Azniv's physical limitations kept her mostly at home. Her loving heart and generous hands, however, never stopped reaching out to the widow, the orphan, the lonely and needy. She became 'Dear Auntie' to all who came to know her.

In her later years Azniv had a longing to go 'home' to be with her Lord. When, at the ripe old age of 90, her earthly structure was crumbling, we, her loved ones, were greatly moved by witnessing the spiritual strength that infused her. She left us with the words of her favorite song on her lips 'Nearer My God to Thee, Nearer to Thee'.

Rev. James Chamichian of Fresno and Rev. Alan Hadidian of La Habra, both close

relatives, conducted the memorial services on August 21, 1985. 'Auntie Azniv' will always be lovingly remembered by her many nieces and nephews, including the Darakjian, Chamichian, Hadidian, Chalakian, Kherlopian and Khounganian families.

It should be noted that a bequest was made to the AMAA to establish in Azniv's memory a fund dedicated to helping children of poor families.

ARTHUR M. MALIAN

Arthur M. Malian died on July 15, 1987, in his 86th year. Arthur was born in Amasia, Armenia. He and his mother managed to survive the Turkish massacre of Armenians by fleeing to Talas, Caesaria, and then to Istanbul, from where they managed to gain passage to the United States.

Having settled in New York, Arthur worked as a photo-engraver by day and pursued a college education at Columbia University in the



Arthur Malian

evenings. Eventually he founded Peerless-Hill Photoengravers, Inc., of New York City and served as its president until his retirement in 1965.

Arthur married Gladys Ajemian in 1935. Their marriage of 52 years was blessed with three children—son Arthur Haig and daughters Joyce and Sharon—and four grandchildren.

Arthur's retirement years were spent in active involvement with community and church affairs. He was a life-long supporter of the AMAA and the Armenian Evangelical Movement.

Arthur's children collaborated on the following tribute to their father:

"Dearest Dad,

"We will always hear your laughter! Your keen sense of humor and sharp wit always caught us by surprise! When we least expected it—you came forth with one of your famous one-liners and set us all reeling with laughter.

"Dad, we will always hear your words of wisdom and adhere to your good advice. We always listened, Pop—even to the things we didn't want to hear; for we never doubted your concern for us and your worldly experience that was reflected in your words and deeds. You pulled us through many years; and how fortunate we were to have the benefit of your insight in our own mid-life years.

"Dad, we will always know of your pride, your joy, and your love for your family. Our mom, Gladys, whom you loved and cherished for over 52 years; this wonderful woman whom you called your "little wife" and oft commented how you could never get along without her. Mom was always by your side, supporting you, caring for you, and providing you with a loving home environment as you, in turn, did for her. Mom was your queen, your angel; the shy little girl who captivated your heart and whom you held close in a most loving marriage.

"Arthur Haig, your namesake; you watch-

ed as he so aptly followed in your footsteps with his keen business sense, his objectivity as he pursued his goals, and his concern for others. You always referred to Art as, "My son with magic fingers"—he can do anything!

"Daughter-in-law, Hillis, with her kind and gentle ways, you loved as your own daughter and were so appreciative of her tenderness, warmth, and understanding.

"Joyce, your daughter whose spirit of adventure you supported as she lived in California with its earthquakes, brush fires, and flash floods. You often asked, "Do you really love sunshine that much?"

Son-in-law, Steve, with whom you shared the bond of coming from the same town, a generation apart.

"Your daughter, Sharon, with whom you always shared a special, endearing line of communication. You were proud of her accomplishments as a teacher and her influence on young people.

"Your grandchildren, Arthur Charles Malian, Steven Arthur Zurnacian, Patricia Malian, and Jill Zurnacian are all involved in worthy pursuits of education: mechanical engineering, pre-medical studies, finance, and architecture. We know they'll do you proud, Pop. They have your zeal for getting things done.

"Your pride in us and your love for us was never a secret, Dad. Just as our love for you, Dad, was never kept silent. And, as we say . . . till we meet again in God's glorious kingdom; we pray that we have all inherited your zest for life. You never feared the unknown. You climbed mountains and accomplished feats few persons dared to dream. When a window was closed, you opened a door! The greater the challenge, the harder you fought, and the sweeter was the victory.

"And now, dearest Dad, your victory comes in life everlasting, never ending, with our Lord.

"We will always know of your love and feel your pride. We cherish your words of wisdom. And, above all, we will always hear your laughter!

Your loving children"

MARIE HEGHINIAN

Marie Heghinian, born April 11, 1901, in Marash, Turkey, the eldest of three daughters of the Reverend Nazareth and Louisa Heghinian, died at her home in Jersey City, N.J., on July 4, 1987.

Marie came to this country, with her mother, in the summer of 1909, following the death of her Father in the Adana massacre.

After graduating from the Jersey City public school, she earned B.S. and M.A. degrees from Columbia University's Teachers College. She majored in Physical Education with special interest in Dance.



Marie Heghinian

After two years in the Detroit (Michigan) public schools, Marie went to Mt. Holyoke College where she instituted classes in Modern Dance. While teaching at the college, she continued her own study of dance with Doris Humphrey and Martha Graham in New York City, with Mary Wigman in Dresden (Germany) and with Gertrude Krauss in Vienna (Austria).

After 16 years on the faculty of Mount Holyoke College, Marie resigned to take up a new career in Physical Therapy, working with polio victims both in the North and at the Warm Springs Foundation in Georgia.

After approximately a year and a half as a post-graduate student and then a staff member of the Warm Springs Foundation, she returned to New Jersey where, for 22 years, she was Chief Physical Therapist at the New Jersey Orthopaedic Hospital in Orange.

In Jersey City, Marie served, at different times, as an Elder of Old Bergen Church, as Vice President of the Jersey City YWCA, and as President of the College Club of Jersey City.

BRUCE HENRY MORGAN

Bruce Henry Morgan, a food industry executive and a pioneer in the use of nuclear energy to preserve food, died of cancer on August 4, 1987, at his home in Portland, Oregon. He was 67 years old.

Mr. Morgan was born in Chicago, received a bachelor's degree from Purdue University (Indiana) and earned a doctorate in microbiology at Rutgers University (New Jersey).

Mr. Morgan was director of new-product research for the Continental Can Company for 10 years before joining Amfac Foods, Inc., in 1967. He retired three years ago as senior vice-president of Amfac. After retirement he worked as a consultant on projects in the United States and abroad.

Mr. Morgan is survived by his wife Frances; a daughter, Sharon, and a son, David; a sister, Helen; and one grandchild.

եւ ուղղութիւնը հոգեւոր են: Թէ՛ յայտագիրները, Թէ՛ աշխատանքի ձեւը կը ձգտին մասնակցողները հրաւիրել իրենց կեանքերը լրջօրէն քննելու եւ զԱստուած նկատի առնելու այդ կեանքերուն մէջ: Պատանեաց եւ իրիւրտասարդը համագումարները տեղի ունեցան 1986ի ամառը: Գրասենեակին մէջ կը ծառայէին լման ժամանակով քարտուղարուհի մը՝ Օրդ. Վարդուհի Պալըզճեան, մասնակի ժամանակով՝ Պրն. Կարպիս Սողոմոնեան: Անցեալ տարի ունեցանք նաեւ համակարգիչ մը, որ առաւելաբար կը գործածուի հայերէնով: Կը գործեն հետեւեալ յանձնախումբերը: (Ա) ՔՋԱԿի ննամակալութիւն, որ կը հսկէ ՔՋԱԿի բարօրութեան: (Բ) Օղակարօտ Մանուկներու Յանձնախումբ, որ զիսաւորաբար մանուկներու յատուկ համագումարներ կը ծրագրէ եւ կը գործադրէ: Իւրաքանչիւր համագումարի կը մասնակցին 75 մանուկներ համագումարներուն

ծախքը առաւելաբար կը հոգացուի անհատներու եւ հաստատութիւններու նուէրով. այդ հաստատութիւններէն յիշելի են Աւետարանչականը, Ճինիչեան Յիշատակի Ձեռնարկը եւ Գարակէօզեան Հաստատութիւնը: (Գ) Հոգեւոր եւ Ընկերային Հոգածութեան Յանձնախումբ, որ ստեղծուեցաւ Միջին Արեւելքի Եկեղեցիներու Խորհուրդէն երիտասարդական յայտագիրներու համար եղած յատկացումները տնօրինելու նպատակով: Ներկայիս աշխատանք կը տարուի քննելու, վերատեսութեան ենթարկելու Գործադիր Մարմինի տեսիլքն ու գործելակերպը: Մեր դժուարութիւններուն մեծ մասը կ'ուզայ առաջնորդներու սակաւաթիւ ըլլալէն: Անիկա նկատի առած՝ ընդհանուր ուղղութիւնը առաջնորդներու պատրաստութեան կը տանի: Ապագային համար կ'ուզենք պատրաստել լման Թէ՛ մասնակի ժամանակով գործիչներ:

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## AN URGENT APPEAL

### PLEASE SHARE YOUR LOVE WITH A NEEDY CHILD: SPONSOR AN ARMENIAN CHILD IN LEBANON

The economic crisis in Lebanon is getting worse, pushing an ever increasing number of families below poverty line. Widespread unemployment, spiraling inflation and rocketing cost of living have left thousands of already war-weary people on the edge of survival.

**Our people are caught in the crunch, too. Many Armenian families have become impoverished, and depend on outside help for their basic survival needs.**

Children are suffering the most. After living with fear, uncertainty and hunger for the past several years, they are now facing a lifetime of hunger. . . Their parents are simply unable to provide for their education. Many boys and girls are forced to drop out of school, losing their hopes, wasting their God-given potential and having their dreams turned into nightmares.

As Armenians and Christians, we cannot turn our back and deny our help to these youngsters in their hour of critical need. Our Christian faith and our sense of Armenian solidarity should compel us to reach out to them in love.

### THE NEED IS URGENT! PLEASE SHOW YOUR LOVE BY SPONSORING A NEEDY CHILD IN LEBANON.

A sponsorship contribution of \$100 a year will enable a high school student to attend school regularly, while

a mere \$75 will ensure the education of an elementary school child for one year.

As a sponsor, you will receive the photo of your child; pertinent information on him/her; and a personal "Thank you" note from him/her.

Please act now, fill in the sponsorship form below and mail it to:

ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
140 Forest Avenue, Paramus, New Jersey 07652

Gentlemen:

Yes, I want to share my love with a needy child. I wish to sponsor:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> One student  | <input type="checkbox"/> Two students   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Three students   | <input type="checkbox"/> . . . students |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed is my sponsorship contribution of \$_____   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please bill me   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please send me more information  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I cannot become a sponsor right now, but I enclose a special contribution of \$_____ underprivileged children. |   |

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

All gifts are fully tax deductible. Make checks payable to the Armenian Missionary Association of America, Inc., and mail to: AMAA; 140 Forest Avenue, Paramus, New Jersey 07652

Armenian Missionary Association of America  
140 Forest Avenue  
Paramus, NJ 07652

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